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REDEMPTION:

A

SACRED ORATORIO;

SELECTED FROM

THE GREAT AND FAVOURITE WORKS

OF

MR. HANDEL;

BY

SAMUEL ARNOLD, Mus. Doc.

AS IT IS PERFORMED AT THE

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

TO

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF CAERMARTHEN.

Honorary President of the Royal Society of Musicians;

And the Honorary Vice-Presidents, viz.

THE EARL OF EXETER,
THE EARL OF SANDWICH,
THE EARL OF UXBRIDGE,
THE RT. HON. VIS. DUDLEY AND WARD,
THE RT. HON. VISCOUNT FITZWILLIAM,
SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN, BART.
SIR RICHARD JEBB, BART,
JOAH BATES, ESQ.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

AS it has been to your superior judgment, that the great and favourite works of the immortal *Handel* have been so eminently distinguished, and under whose auspices they have been so capitally performed; permit me to recommend to your protection, a selection from the works of this great man: for to whom could his labours be inscribed with more propriety, than to those who have a real taste for his sublimities!

I have the honour to be,

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

With the utmost gratitude and respect,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

S. ARNOLD.

PREFACE.

THE judicious selection of Music, performed at the Commemoration of HANDEL at Westminster-Abbey, and at the Pantheon, first gave the idea of compiling and bringing into one performance, or regular drama, those great and favourite works of this justly-admired author; and I have only to regret, that the compass of time allotted for the performance of an Oratorio is so short, as to deprive me of adding many more of his capital compositions, that would have greatly enriched the performance.

In the arrangement of the pieces, care has been taken not to alter the harmony, or to interfere with the melody of the voice part, excepting to divide a note, in order to accommodate particular syllables to such words as are adapted to his Italian airs.---Wherever the text could be preserved, it has been preferred.

The drama opens with a description of the *Creation*, which being accomplished, it hastens to the grand scriptural type of *Christ*; that of Abraham's faith, in the offering his son Isaac. After which, the history of Joseph being sold to the Ishmaelites, and the departure of the Children of Israel, with Moses their leader, out of the land of Egypt, conclude the first part.

The stories of Joshua, Deborah, Saul, David, and the Coronation of Solomon, slightly touched upon, compose the second part.

From the prophesies of Jeremiah and Micah, of the coming of our blessed Lord and Saviour, the third part opens: his Birth, Mission, Death, and Resurrection follow; and the piece concludes with the consequences therereof---our REDEMPTION!

S. A.

REDEMPTION.

PART I.

Overture to the Occasional Oratorio.

RECIT. *Accompanied.*

WHEN the earth was without form, and void, and when darkness covered the face of the deep, the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Let there be light,
Th' Almighty said,
And light was over all!

Genesis, ch i. v. 2.

CHORUS. *Sampson.*

Oh first created beam! and thou, great word!
Let there be light! and light was over all:
One heavenly blaze shone round this earthly ball.

RECI-

RECITATIVE.

He measur'd the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with a span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance.

Isaiah, ch. xl. v. 22.

AIR. *Eatius, Nascé al bosco.*

He layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

He maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flaming fire.

Psalm civ. v. 3, 4.

CHORUS. *Jephtha.*

When his loud voice in thunder spoke,
With conscious fear the billows broke;
Observant of his dread command,
In vain they roll their foaming tide;
Confin'd by that great power
That gave them strength to roar,
They now contract their boist'rous pride,
And lash with idle rage the laughing strand.

RECITATIVE.

Now Heav'n in all her glory shone; and roll'd
Her motions, as the first great Mover's hand

First wheel'd their course; earth in her rich attire
Consummate lovely smil'd: air, water, earth,
By fowl, fish, beast, was flown, was swum, was walk'd,
Frequent: and of the sixth day yet remain'd:
There wanted yet the master-work, the end
Of all yet done: therefore th' Omnipotent
Eternal Father (for where is not He
Present?) thus to his Son audibly spake:

Accompanied.

Let us now make Man in our own image, Man
In our similitude, and let them rule
Over the fish and fowl of sea and air,
Beast of the field, and over all the earth,
And every creeping thing that creeps the ground.

Paradise Lost.

AIR. *Semele.*

Lord! what is man, that thou art mindful of him; or the Son of man that thou regardest him?

Thou madest him lower than the angels, to crown him with glory and worship.

Psalm viii. v. 4, 5.

CHORUS. *Saul.*

How excellent thy name, O Lord!
In all the world is known;

Above all heav'ns, O King ador'd!
How hast thou set thy glorious throne!

RECITATIVE.

These are thy glorious works, Parent of good,
Almighty, thine this universal frame,
Thus wond'rous fair; thyself how wond'rous then!
Unspeakable! who sitt'st above the heav'ns
To us invisible, or dimly seen
In these thy lowest works; yet these declare
Thy goodness beyond thought, and pow'r divine.

Paradise Lost.

AIR. *Dite che ſa.*

Speak ye, who best can tell, ye sons of light---
Angels, for ye behold him; and with songs
And choral symphonies, day without night,
Circle his throne rejoicing.---

Paradise Lost.

RECITATIVE.

Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Romans, ch. iv. v. 3.

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven, and said,

Genesis ch. xxii. v. 15.

By myself, saith the Lord, have I sworn,

for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not with-held thy son, thine only son, in blessing, I will bless thee, and in multiplying, I will multiply thy seed as the stars in the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because thou hast obey'd my voice.

AIR. *Susannah, Would custome bid.*

Abraham, enough! thy piety is shown,
Thy faith shall be to after ages known,
I by myself have sworn thy seed to bless,
And thy foes' gates thine issue shall possess;
The Saviour of the world from thee shall rise
T' atone my wrath a willing sacrifice.

Westley's Hist. of the Bible.

RECITATIVE.

Now when Joseph was sold by his brethren to the Ishmaelites, for twenty pieces of silver, they brought him into Egypt.

Genesis, ch. xxxvii. v. 28.

And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guards, bought him of the Ishmaelites.

Ch. xxxix. v. 1. 4.

And Joseph found favour in the sight of his master, and he made him overseer in his house, even over all that he had.

AIR. *Occasional Oratorio.*

Jehovah is my shield and glory;
Him thro' my story
Th' exalter of my head I count;
Aloud I cry'd,
He soon reply'd,
And heard me from his holy mount.
I lay and slept, and wak'd again,
The Lord himself did me sustain.

RECITATIVE.

When Joseph had interpreted Pharaoh's dream, that the famine should be in the land of Egypt, Pharaoh said unto him,

Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all these things, thou shalt be over my house; and according to thy word shall all my people be ruled, for I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis, ch. xli. v. 39, 40.

CHORUS. *Joseph.*

Blest be the man by power unstain'd,
Virtue there itself rewarding;

Blest be the man by wealth unchain'd,
Treasure for the public hoarding.

RECITATIVE. *Israel in Egypt.*

When Joseph was dead, there arose a new king over Egypt, that knew not Joseph, and he set over Israel task-masters, to afflict them with burdens, and they made them serve with rigour.

Accompanied.

And the Children of Israel sigh'd by reason of their bondage; and their cry came up unto God.

AIR. *Judas Maccabæus.*

Pious orgies, pious airs,
Decent sorrows, decent pray'rs,
Will to the Lord ascend and move
His pity, and regain his love.

RECITATIVE. *Israel in Egypt.*

Then sent he Moses his servant, and Aaron whom he had chosen; these shewed his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.

Double CHORUS.

He sent them hail-stones for rain. Fire, mingled with the hail, ran along upon the ground.

DUETTO. *Israel in Egypt.*

The Lord is a man of war; Lord is his name.

Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea:

His chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.

Double CHORUS. *Israel in Egypt.*

Moses and the Children of Israel sang this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying:

I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously. The horse, and his rider, hath he thrown into the sea.

END OF THE FIRST PART.

REDEMPTION.

PART II.

Now after the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua, the son of Nun (Moses' minister), saying, "Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou and all this people, unto the land which I do give unto them, even to the Children of Israel."

Joshua, ch. i. v. 1.

CHORUS. *Joshua.*

Ye sons of Israel, ev'ry tribe attend,
Let grateful tongs and hymns to heaven ascend.
In Gilgal and on Jordan's banks proclaim,
One first, one great, one Lord Jehovah's name.

RECITATIVE. *Joshua.*

Oh Joshua! both to rule and bless ordain'd,
When Moses the eternal mansions gain'd;

What boundless gratitude to Heav'n we owe,
Who did in thee so wise a chief bestow.
Courage and conduct shine in thee compleat,
Justice and mercy fill thy judgment seat.

AIR. *Joshua.*

Oh had I Jubal's lyre,
Or Miriam's tuneful voice,
To sounds like his I wou'd aspire,
In songs like her's rejoice.
My humble strains but faintly show
How much to Heav'n---and thee we owe.

RECITATIVE.

When Joshua had carried the Children of Israel into the land of Canaan, he was gathered unto his fathers.---

And the Children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord God, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt.

Judges, ch. xxii. v. 11.

And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and sold them into the hands of their enemies.

Verse 14.

RECITATIVE.

Now Deborah the prophetess judged Israel; and she spoke, saying;

Deborah.

Ye sons of Israel cease your fears,
Jehovah your petition hears;
The impious chief of Canaan's host,
Who made our fall his daring boast,
Shall perish on the crimson sand,
Ignobly, by a woman's hand.

Judges ch. iv. v. 4.

AIR. *Theodora.*

Angels---ever bright and fair,
Make this people now your care;
Fight for Judah 'gainst her foes,
Save thine Israel---end her woes.

CHORUS. *Esther.*

Jehovah, crown'd with glory bright,
Surrounded with eternal light;
Whose ministers are flaming fire,
Arise, and execute thine ire.
He comes, he comes to end our woes,
And pour his vengeance on our foes.
Earth trembles, lofty mountains nod;
Jacob arise, and meet thy God.

RECITATIVE.

Now the elders of Israel gathered themselves together under Samuel, and said, make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

1 *Samuel*, ch. viii. v. 4.

And Samuel anointed Saul king over them.

And Saul and Jonathan his son assembled the people together, and fought against the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and behold the daughters of the land, in joyful dance with instruments of music, came to congratulate the victory.

CHORUS. *Saul.*

Welcome, welcome mighty king,
Welcome all who conquest bring;
Welcome David, warlike boy,
Author of our present joy.
Saul, who hast thy thousands slain,
Welcome to thy friends again;
David his ten thousands slew,
Ten thousand praises are his due.

RECITATIVE.

Again the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel, with Saul and Jonathan his son, fell down, slain in Mount Gilboah.

1 *Sam.* ch. xxxi. v. 1.

And David mourned and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul and Jonathan.

2 Sam. ch. 1. v. 12.

AIR *and* CHORUS. *Saul.*

In sweetest harmony they liv'd,
Nor death their union could divide;
The pious son ne'er left his father's side,
But him defending, bravely died.
A loss too great to be surviv'd.
For Saul, ye maids of Israel, moan;
To whose indulgent care,
You owe the scarlet and the gold ye wear,
And all the pomp in which your beauty long hath shone.
Oh, fatal day, how low the mighty lie!
Oh, Jonathan, how nobly didst thou die!
For thy king and country slain,
For thee, my brother Jonathan,
How great is my distress!
What language can my grief express!
Great was the pleasure I enjoy'd in thee,
And more than woman's love, thy wond'rous love to me.
Oh fatal day, how low the mighty lie!
Where, Israel, is thy glory fled?

Spoil'd of thy arms and sunk in infamy
How canst thou raise again thy drooping head?

CHORUS. *Funeral Anthem.*

Their bodies are buried in peace.

Dead March in Saul.

RECITATIVE.

And the men of Judah appointed David king over the House of Judah.

2 *Sam.* ch. ii. v. 4.

And the Lord was with him, for he found favour in the sight of the Lord.

AIR. *Rend il sereno.*

Lord, remember David; teach him to know thy ways,
Oh guide his tongue with meekness, daily to sing thy praise.

CHORUS. *Saul.*

Gird on thy sword, thou man of might,
Pursue thy wonted fame!
Go on, be prosperous in fight,
Retrieve the Hebrew name.
Thy strong right hand, with terror arm'd,
Shall thy obdurate foes dismay;

While others, by thy virtue charm'd,
Shall crowd to own thy righteous sway.

RECITATIVE.

Blessed be the Lord my strength, who teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight.

Psalm cxliv. v. 1.

Who hath chosen David his servant, and took him away from the sheep folds.

Psalm lxxviii. v. 71.

AIR. *Occasional Oratorio.*

The sword that's drawn in virtue's cause,
To guard our country and its laws;
Friend, parent, children dear,
To guide its edge we Heav'n invoke:
Rebellion falls beneath the stroke;
And joy succeeds to fear.
Millions unborn shall bless the hand
That gave deliverance to the land.

RECITATIVE.

When King David was old and stricken in years, he commanded Zadock the priest and Nathan the prophet to anoint Solomon

King over Israel; and they blew the trumpet, and the people answered and said---

1 *Book of Kings*, ch. i. v. 1. 34.

CHORUS. *Coronation Anthem:*

God save the King!
Long live the King!
May the King live for ever!

Hallelujah. Amen.

END OF THE SECOND PART.

REDEMPTION.

PART III.

Now when the fullness of time was come, Joseph, with Mary his espoused wife, went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth unto Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David); and while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

Luke, ch. ii. v. 4, 5, 6, 7.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling cloaths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

AIR. *Alcina, Verde prati.*

Where is this stupendous stranger,
Nymphs of Solima advise?
Lead me to my master's manger;
Shew me where my Saviour lies.

Oh most mighty! oh most holy!
Far above the seraph's thought;
Art thou then so meek and lowly,
As unheeded prophets taught.

Oh the magnitude of meekness!
Worth from worth immortal sprung;
Oh the strength of infant weakness,
If eternal is so young!

Smart's Psalms.

RECITATIVE.

In the days of Herod the king, behold there came wise men from the East to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born king of the Jews; for we have seen his star in the East, and are come to worship him.

Matthew, ch. ii. v. 1.

AIR. *Alexander Balus, Here amid a shady wood.*

There beneath a lowly shade,
They found the heavenly infant laid;

Their richest gifts before him spread,
And humblest adoration paid.

RECITATIVE.

And Jesus went about doing good unto all men. He sought not his own glory, but the glory of his Father; for he taught salvation unto all, working great miracles, and his works bore witness of him.

AIR. *Siroc, Non in piacque.*

He was eyes unto the blind,
He was feet unto the lame;
He healed their sickness, and
Eased all their sorrows.

RECITATIVE.

When the time drew near, and that all things that were written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man should be accomplished; that he should be delivered unto the Gentiles, and be mocked and spit upon, and that they should scourge him and put him to death; and on the third day he should rise again; then Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and a very great multitude spread their gar-

ments in the way, others cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way, and the multitude that went before, and that followed after, cried, saying,

CHORUS. *Te Deum.*

Hosannah to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosannah in the highest.

RECITATIVE.

The people at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets, which were read every Sabbath-day; they have fulfilled them in condemning him.

AIR.

He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep to the sacrifice, yet he opened not his mouth! when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judged righteously.

RECITATIVE.

Behold it is Christ that is risen from the grave, who was ordained by God to be the judge of quick and the dead.

CHORUS. *Te Deum.*

He sitteth at the right hand of God, in the glory of the father.

AIR. *Rodelinda, Dove sai.*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

Who shall not glorify thy name, for thou art holy; thou only art the Lord.

Rev. ch. xi. xv. v. 17. 4.

RECITATIVE.

For as much as Christ (our Paschal Lamb) did offer himself a willing sacrifice to God for the remission of our sins (whereby he hath redeemed us) and now sitteth at the right hand of God, making intercession for us. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising God, and saying,

Communion Service.

CHORUS. *Jubilate.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE END.